

Annual Report, “Federal Information Security Management Act: Fiscal Year 2006 Report from the Office of Inspector General” (IG-06-021, September 28, 2006)

This annual report, submitted as a memorandum from the Inspector General to the NASA Administrator, provides the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) with our independent assessment of NASA’s information technology (IT) security posture. We recommended that NASA identify its IT security program as a material weakness reportable in accordance with the Federal Managers’ Financial Integrity Act. We made that recommendation because of IT security weaknesses that we identified during this fiscal year, many of which were similar to those we identified in previous years. Examples of recurring weaknesses included patch management, monitoring of critical system activities, backup of systems, and certification of IT systems. In addition, several NASA Centers have experienced recent IT security incidents, which the NASA Office of Inspector General is currently investigating. Although our audit and investigation work reflects challenges to and recurring weaknesses in NASA’s IT security program, the Agency has taken steps to bolster its IT security defenses during FY 2006 and has also launched several strategic initiatives to improve its IT security. In addition, the Agency has mandated a comprehensive, NASA-wide IT security review that should result in recommendations that, if implemented, will improve the Agency’s IT security posture.

*The OMB will provide a consolidated report to Congress, which will include information provided by our report. However, as an “Intra-Agency Memorandum,” our report is considered exempt from release under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); it also contains NASA Information Technology/Internal Systems Data that is not routinely released under FOIA. To submit a FOIA request, see the [online guide](#).*

*We will update this summary when OMB’s FY 2006 report is available online. (Last year’s, [Federal Information Security Management Act \(FISMA\) Report to Congress for FY 2005](#), was released by OMB on March 1, 2006.)*